military elements aimed at reducing the present tensions in the relationship between the two countries and securing Pakistan's agreement to taking credible and tangible measures to meet India's concerns regarding its support to terrorism in Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir. These proposals. These proposals, inter-alia, were discussed by the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan at Islamabad from 17—20 July, 1990.. The second round of talks, at the Foreign Secretary level will be held at New Delhi from 9-12 August, 1990.

Influx of Sri Lankan refugees

231. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the influx of Sri Lankan refugees into the country is on the rise;

(b) if so, how many Sri Lankan refugees families entered the country during the last three months;

(c) what is the total number of Sri Lankan refugees in the country as on date;

(d) what is the total number of refugee families, if any repatriated to Sri Lanka; and

(e) what steps have been taken by Government to meet the situation arising out fresh influx of Sri Lankan refugees in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the last three months 14578 refugees families have entered the country.

(c) As on 31-7-90, 1,39,937 refugees were in the country.

(d) 8,245 families.

(e) The Government of Tamil Nadu is providing accommodation and relief facilities to the Sri Lankan refugees in various camps in Tamil Nadu. To meet the expenditure on provision of relief facilities an 'on account' advance of Rs. 2 crores has been released to the State Government during the month of July, 1990.

Touts at the Regional Transport Offices in Delhi

232. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state.

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the report appearing in the Statesman, dated the 14th June, 1990 regarding the flourishing business of touts at the Regional Transport Offices in Delhi with the new Motor Vehicle Act coming in force; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to curb such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Directorate of Transport, Delhi Administration has intimated that in order to contain the unscrupulous activities of certain persons operating in and around the Directorate offices a massive operation was undertaken not only to demolish their temporary structures, but to ensure that no such structure came up once again. Strict security measures were taken by Enforcement Branch of the Dirtectorate to physically remove any unscrupulous elements in the office building. While enforcing from outside to see that such elements do not again entry into this Directorate, security within was tightened. Complaint boxes were put up in every office and senior officers were directed to sit from 12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m. in their offices to take immediate action against public grievances. Long term measures like opening of new regional offices, to reduce waiting time for applicants, were taken New offices were opened at Sheikh Sarai, Janakpuri and Majnu-ka-Tilla. Issue of application form of licences were made and assistance counters were opened in all the offices to assist the general public in order to simplify the issue of driving licences this Directorate introduced assembly line procedure where collection of fees

were not only mechanised but the waiting period for the applicant was reduced substantially.

The Directorate of Transport, Delhi Administration has been keeping a constant vigil on the unscrupulous elements and is in close liaison with the local police to contain the situation.

Four-laning of G.T. Road

233. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the year when the work regarding four-laning of the G.T. Road was taken up and by when the project was scheduled to be completed;

(b) whether the work between Delhi & Ambala has been held up for long; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to remove the impediments and to resume the work?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) The work of 4-laning was sanctioned in 1986 in the following Sections of G.T. Road (NH 1) with target dates of start and completion given against each:

Sl. No.	Section	Date of Start	& target date of Completion of contracts
1	Murthal-Karnal (KM. 50 to 130) in Haryana	1-5-87	30-4-91
2	Sirhind to Jalandhar in Punjab (Km. 252.250 – 320.478 & Km. 344.500– 700)	9-4-87	31-12-90

(b) and (c) The portion from 0 Km. to 50 Km. (upto Murthal) of Delhi-Ambala section is already 4 lane, work from Murthal to Karnal is in progress and work from Karnal to Ambala is yet to be sanctioned. The progress of work on Murthal-Karnal Section by the Contractors had been slow. The contractor to whom the work in Km. 50 to 74.8 was awarded has been expelled and tenders have been re-invited for the execution of remaining work. For the contracts in Km. 74.8 to Km. 130.00, there has been hardly any progress for over an year because of dispute between the partners of the contracting firm which is a joint-venture and action is under consideration for accelerating the progress.

Ex-gratia payment to widows of November, 1984 riot victims

234. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the amount of ex-gratia payment announced by Government for the widows of the November, 1984 riot victims in Delhi stating the number of families eligible for the payment of the amount announced; and

(b) what is the total number of families who have since received the amount of ex-gratia payment stating the reasons for the non-payment of the amount to the remaining families, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) The families of those who died in 1984 riots are eligible for ex-gratia grant of Rs. 20,000/-. Delhi Administration has reported that ex-gratia payment has been made in 2513 cases out of 2733 eligible cases. In remaining cases, the next of the kin of the deceased have not applied for ex-gratia payment.

Changing political situation in Europe

235. SHRI DAYANAND SAHAY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the development of relations between U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. during their